21st March 1921]

Panchama meeting at Nannimangalam, Lalgudi taluk.

425 Q.—Mr. R. T. KESAVULU PILLAI: To ask the Hon'ble the Law Member whether—

(*a*) the Government have perused a communication under the heading "a Panchama mass meeting" published in the *Hindu* of 3rd February 1921; and

(*b*) the Government have taken any steps in view of the action of the high caste Hindus of the village of Nannimangalam in Lalgudi taluk.

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The resolutions passed at the meeting were received by Government who have forwarded them to the Commissioner of Labour for inquiry. On the result of the inquiry, the Government will consider what action, if any, should be taken.

Occupancy rights to Malabar kanam tenants.

426 Q.—Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR: To ask the Hon'ble the Law Member—

(*a*) whether Mr. C. A. Innes submitted to the Government, when he was the Collector of Malabar, a memorandum urging the need for granting right of permanent occupancy to the kanam tenants of Malabar in their holdings; and

(*b*) if so, to lay the memorandum on the table.

A.—(*a*) The Government received a note from Mr. Innes on the tenancy question in Malabar.

(*b*) They regret that they cannot comply with the request.

Government officers and clerks trained in Indian Defence Force.

427 Q.—Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR: To ask the Hon'ble the Home Member—

(*a*) how many officers and clerks in each department under the Government have undergone the training in the Indian Defence Force; and

(*b*) whether any preferential treatment has been accorded to them.

A.—(*a*) The Government are not in possession of the information.

(*b*) The Government in 1917 instructed heads of departments and offices to take service in the Indian Defence Force into consideration when making appointments. They have no reason to believe that this instruction has not been carried out, or that heads of departments have failed to give effect to the resolution* of the Government of India on the subject of the preferential treatment of persons who have rendered service in connexion with the prosecution of the war.

Breach of peace at Calicut.

428 Q.—Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU: To ask the Hon'ble the Home Member—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that there have been no breaches of the peace at Calicut prior or subsequent to the arrests of Messrs. Yaqub Hasan, Madhavan Nayar, Gopala Menon and Mohideen Koya;

(*b*) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the expression of public feeling in the Presidency protesting against the arrest; and

(*c*) whether the Government cannot direct the immediate release of those persons.

* Published as a supplement to the *Gazette of India* and republished in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, Part I, dated 16th September 1919.

A.—(*a*) So far as regards the period prior to the arrest of Mr. Yaqub Hasan and his companions, the Honourable Member's question is not sufficiently specific to admit of an answer. It is not a fact that there have been no breaches of the peace in Calicut since the date of the arrest.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) The Government have no intention of issuing any such direction. The District Magistrate has power to direct release whenever that can be done without hazard.

Stipendiary students of the Veterinary College, Madras.

429 Q.—Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU: To ask the Hon'ble the Minister for Development whether it is a fact—

(*a*) that students of the Madras Veterinary College holding stipends will forfeit their stipends if they fail even once in any of the two examinations;

(*b*) that students who are unable to finish their instruction for any default on their part have to pay a penalty of Rs. 400; and

(*c*) that students who fail once in the first year's examination and twice in the second and third years' examinations are dismissed from the Veterinary College.

A.—(*a*) Stipends in the higher classes are awarded on the results of annual examinations and students that fail in the examinations are not ordinarily awarded stipends.

(*b*) Students who leave the college without sanction are liable to refund the tuition fees at the rate of Rs. 400 per annum.

(*c*) The answer is in the affirmative.

Tenders for railway sleepers.

430 Q.—Rao Bahadur T. NAMBERUMAL CHETTI: To ask the Hon'ble the Home Member—

(*a*) if it is a fact that the southern group of railways are inviting tenders for 4½ lakhs of sleepers aggregating in quantity 10 lakhs of cubic feet the value of which at Rs. 3 per cubic foot approximately would amount to 30 lakhs of rupees; and

(*b*) if the Government could not inquire why this large supply cannot be made either in full or in part by the Forest Department of this Presidency instead of allowing foreign markets to meet the demand.

A.—The Government have no information but will inquire.

Cost of agency administration.

431 Q.—Mr. C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU: To ask the Hon'ble the Home Member what the amount of extra cost is in the administration by constituting the Agency tracts of Ganjām, Vizagapatam and Gōdāvari districts into a separate Agency district.

A.—As stated in the answer to question No. 295, the reorganization of the Agency division is not yet complete. Consequently the extra cost to the administration cannot be stated definitely.

Famine at Vizagapatam.

432 Q.—Mr. C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU: To ask the Hon'ble the Member for Revenue whether in any part or parts of the district of Vizagapatam there